

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ACTIVATING APPLICATION FUNCTION BASED ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF TOUCH-BASED GESTURED INPUT

Cross Reference to Related Patent Application

This application claims foreign priority to Chinese Patent Application No.
5 201510320930.X filed on June 12, 2015, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Activating
Application Function", which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Technical Field

The present disclosure relates to the field of communication technologies, and in
10 particular, to methods and apparatuses of activating an application function.

Background

With the development of Internet technology, a variety of different applications have
emerged. The applications provide support for a plurality of different functions, for example,
15 receiving and sending information, QR code scanning, adding favorite items, setting,
videoing, and communications, etc. Generally speaking, respective function buttons are set
up on an interface of an application for commonly used functions to facilitate a user to
activate corresponding functions through the function buttons. An instant messaging tool is
used as an example. A text input button, a speech input button, an icon input button, etc.,
20 are set in a lower portion of a chat window of the instant messaging tool.

In a real application, a user needs to click a function button to activate a corresponding
function. For example, in a chatting process, a user needs to click a microphone voice input
icon at the bottom right corner of a chat window for voice input. However, due to
restrictions in application scenarios, such as when driving or operating with single hand, the
25 user may find it inconvenient to manipulate the voice input icon, thus failing to activate the
corresponding function and affecting the usage of the application function by the user.

Summary

This Summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts in a simplified form that
30 are further described below in the Detailed Description. This Summary is not intended to

What is claimed is:

1. A method implemented by one or more computing devices, the method comprising:
 - obtaining an activation instruction sent by a user within a blank space accessible to the user on an application interface, the activation instruction including performing a long-press gesture operation and maintaining the long-press gesture operation until an application function is completed, wherein obtaining the activation instruction comprises converting the long-press gesture operation into the activation instruction in response to the long-press gesture operation being matched with a preset activation gesture;
 - activating at least one application function according to the activation instruction, the activating including activating an application function corresponding to at least one function button that is located outside an operation range accessible to the user on the application interface, wherein activating the at least one application function comprises activating a first application function of the at least one application function in response to a time period of an associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than a first time threshold and less than or equal to a second time threshold and activating a second application function of the at least one application function in response to the time period of the associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than the second time threshold;
 - receiving a closing instruction sent by the user within the blank space accessible to the user to close an activated application function; and
 - closing the activated application function according to the closing instruction.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:
 - determining the blank space accessible to the user according to the long-press gesture operation sent by the user on the application interface;

displaying a function button corresponding to the at least one application function to the user within the blank space accessible to the user; and receiving the activation instruction sent by the user via an operation of the function button within the blank space accessible to the user.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting first prompt information to indicate that the at least one application function is activated after the activating at least one application function according to the activation instruction.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising outputting second prompt information to indicate that the at least one application function is closed after closing the at least one application function according to the closing instruction.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
displaying an operation interface of the at least one application function to the user after activating the at least one application function according to the activation instruction; and
displaying execution information of the at least one application function on the operation interface of the at least one application function.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
receiving a preview instruction sent by the user on the operation interface of the at least one application function; and
outputting data in a course of executing the at least one application function as preview data according to the preview instruction.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein displaying the execution information of the at least one application function comprises displaying an audio map and quit prompt information on the operation interface of the at least one application function, wherein the audio map reflects a frequency and an amplitude of a voice inputted by the user, and the quit prompt information is used to prompt the user to abandon a voice input when the at least one application function is a voice input function.

8. An apparatus, comprising:
 one or more processors;
 memory;
 an acquisition module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to obtain an activation instruction sent by a user within a blank space accessible to the user on an application interface, wherein the activation instruction including performing a long-press gesture operation and maintaining the long-press gesture operation until an application function is completed, and convert the long-press gesture operation into the activation instruction in response to the long-press gesture operation being matched with a preset activation gesture;
 an activation module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to activate at least one application function according to the activation instruction, wherein activating at least one application function includes activating an application function corresponding to at least one function button that is located outside an operation range accessible to the user on the application interface, and wherein activate the at least one application function comprises activating a first application function of the at least one application function in response to a time period of an associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than a first time threshold and less than or equal to a second time threshold and activating a second application function of the at least one application function in response to the time period of the associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than the second time threshold; and
 a closing module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to receive a closing instruction sent by the user within the blank space accessible to the user and to close an activated application function according to the closing instruction.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the acquisition module further determines the blank space accessible to the user according to the long-press gesture operation sent by the user on the application interface, displays a function button corresponding to the at least one application function to the user within the blank

space accessible to the user, and receives the activation instruction sent by the user via an operation of the function button within the blank space accessible to the user.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:
 - a first output module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to output first prompt information to indicate that the at least one application function is activated; and
 - a second output module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to output second prompt information to indicate that the activated application function is closed.
11. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:
 - a display module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to display an operation interface of the at least one application function to the user, and display execution information of the at least one application function on the operation interface of the at least one application function; and
 - a preview module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to receive a preview instruction sent by the user on the operation interface of the at least one application function, and take and output data in a course of executing the at least one application function as preview data according to the preview instruction.
12. One or more non-transitory computer-readable media storing executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform acts comprising:
 - obtaining an activation instruction sent by a user within a blank space accessible to the user on an application interface, the activation instruction including performing a long-press gesture operation and maintaining the long-press gesture operation until an application function is completed, wherein obtaining the activation instruction comprises converting the long-press gesture operation into the activation instruction in response to

the long-press gesture operation being matched with a preset activation gesture;

activating at least one application function according to the activation instruction, the activating including activating an application function corresponding to at least one function button that is located outside an operation range accessible to the user on the application interface, wherein activating the at least one application function comprises activating a first application function of the at least one application function in response to a time period of an associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than a first time threshold and less than or equal to a second time threshold and activating a second application function of the at least one application function in response to the time period of the associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than the second time threshold;

receiving a closing instruction sent by the user within the blank space accessible to the user to close an activated application function; and closing the activated application function according to the closing instruction.

13. One or more non-transitory computer-readable media storing executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform acts comprising:

displaying, in an instant messaging (IM) chat window, at least a first IM message and a second IM message exchanged between at least a first party and a second party, wherein the first IM message and the second IM message defines a blank area accessible to the user among the messages;

activating a voice recording function, in response to a user operation on the blank area accessible to the user, to allow voice messages to be recorded and transmitted between the first party and the second party, the user operation including performing a long-press gesture operation and maintaining the long-press gesture operation until the activated voice recording function is completed and the voice recording function being located outside an operate range accessible to the user on the IM chat window;

converting the long-press gesture operation into an activation instruction in response to the long-press gesture operation being matched with a preset activation gesture;

activating a first application function of the voice recording function in response to a time period of an associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than a first time threshold and less than or equal to a second time threshold;

activating a second application function of the voice recording function in response to the time period of the associated long press of the long-press gesture is greater than the second time threshold;

displaying an audio map on the IM chat window;

receiving, in the IM chat window, closing instructions sent by the user within the blank area accessible to the user to close the voice recording function; and

closing the activated voice recording function according to the closing instruction.